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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Republic of Korea

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1. The average South Korean desires to again see all of Korea united into one country and would not be satisfied with a "cease fire" or another division of the country based on artificial lines. A major reason for their wish is due to the location of most industry in the north and the preponderance of agriculture in the south. Koreans feel that should a peace be established which would again divide the basic make-up of the country their nation would be paralyzed.
2. Most South Koreans are of the opinion that they now have enough equipment and supplies to carry on the burden of war by themselves, and to do a fairly satisfactory job of it. But, they also believe that their people generally possess an inadequate technical knowledge insofar as manufacturing and allied skills are concerned and that outside aid should be proffered in this field. In my opinion the United Nations has done much to aid the people in material and I would suggest that more Korean students be sent to the US for training and for instruction of other Koreans on their return home. Fields in which South Korea is in short supply include personnel trained in all technical and skilled trades, such as engineering, road building, water supply systems, electrical construction (including hydroelectric developments) and general building construction. The basic reason for the existing shortage of Korean technicians dates back to the Japanese control of the country. Under the Japanese very few native people were trained in engineering and allied professions.
3. Before the Korean war began there were a number of "pinks" and Communists who were students in the various schools and universities of South Korea. Their basic propaganda was comprised of promises to the poorer people -- telling the poor that they would receive food and the farmer that he would obtain free land. With the advent of the war most of the pre-war communist sympathizers turned against communism because they became enlightened as to the full effect of the policy of communism and the false promises that were made. As a result there are few, if any, Communist students presently in attendance in South Korean schools. During the time [redacted] the Chosen Christian University, [redacted] did not [redacted] encounter any trace of communism among the students and [redacted] all of those enrolled were very anti-Communist in their political beliefs.

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4. In a letter from a South Korean friend which was mailed from Pusan [redacted] 52 25X1 [redacted] he stated that all graduates of South Korean universities and high schools must now serve in the ROK (Republic of South Korea) army upon their graduation. An exception is made in the case of high school graduates who pass university entrance examinations and who are able to maintain their college grades at a satisfactory level. Incidentally, the universities now operate on a condensed three year curriculum instead of the pre-war four years.

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